

Amendments

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 8 & 28 without prejudice, and add new claims 51 & 52.

Also, please amend claims 1, 5, 10, 18, 21, 22, 25, 30, 38, 41, 42, 47 and 50 as set forth below. All the claims are reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Twice Amended) A method of sharing state information, said method comprising:

determining by an intermediary application state information to be shared between a first domain and a second domain; and

sharing said state information between said first domain and said second domain, wherein said first domain and said second domain are non-cooperating domains, said non-cooperating domains having no knowledge of one another and wherein said non-cooperating domains do not directly communicate state information between one another, said sharing of state information being through the intermediary application.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said state information is stored within one or more cookies.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said first domain and said second domain are disjoint domains.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said sharing comprises:

adding state information of said first domain to a request to be sent to said second domain; and

sending said request, including said state information, to said second domain.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said sharing further comprises receiving, by the intermediary application, said request from a client prior to said adding, and wherein said adding and said sending are performed by said intermediary application.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said sharing comprises:

adding state information of said first domain to a response associated with said second domain; and

sending said response, including said state information, to a client.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said sharing further comprises saving said state information at said client, wherein said state information is saved for a specified range of Uniform Resource Locators associated with said second domain.

8. Cancel.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said state information is representative of at least one of the following:

(a) login credentials to be used when accessing said first domain and said second domain; and

(b) items to be purchased in an on-line virtual shopping mall, wherein said first domain represents a first vendor of said on-line virtual shopping mall and said second domain represents a second vendor of said on-line virtual shopping mall.

10. (Amended) A method of providing state information, said method comprising:

determining by an intermediary application state information to be provided to at least one of a client application (client) and a server application (server); and

using the intermediary application, that is disposed to receive transmissions exchanged between said client and said server, to provide said state information to said at least one of said client and said server.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said using comprises:

receiving, by said intermediary application, a request from said client; and

sending a response to said request from said intermediary application to said client, said response including said state information.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said state information is provided to said client, and wherein said method further comprises saving said state information at said client for any specified range of Uniform Resource Locators.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising forwarding said state information saved at said client to said intermediary application.

14. The method of claim 12, further comprising saving said state information for one or more other range of Uniform Resource Locators.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein said using comprises adding said state information to a request for said server.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein said using comprises adding said state information to a response for said client.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising saving, by said client, said state information for a specified range of Uniform Resource Locators.

18. (Thrice Amended) A method of electronic shopping, said method comprising:

selecting, by a purchaser, a plurality of items to be purchased electronically from a plurality of vendors, said plurality of vendors comprising a plurality of non-cooperating domains, said non-cooperating domains having no knowledge of one another and wherein said non-cooperating domains do not directly communicate state information between one another, but share state information through an intermediary application; and

purchasing said plurality of items on-line via a single check out, wherein an indication of said plurality of items to be purchased need not be moved, by said purchaser, between said plurality of vendors.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising placing said selected plurality of items in a shared shopping cart, said shared shopping cart being shared between said plurality of vendors.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said shared shopping cart comprises one or more cookies representing said plurality of items to be purchased.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein said placing is controlled by the intermediary application coupled to said vendors.

22. (Twice Amended) A system of sharing state information, said system comprising:

means for determining by an intermediary application state information to be shared between a first domain and a second domain; and

means for sharing said state information between said first domain and said second domain, wherein said first domain and said second domain are non-cooperating domains, said non-cooperating domains having no knowledge of one another and wherein said non-cooperating domains do not directly communicate state information between one another, said means for sharing employing the intermediary application in sharing said state information between said first domain and said second domain.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said state information is stored within one or more cookies.

24. The system of claim 22, wherein said means for sharing comprises:

means for adding state information of said first domain to a request to be sent to said second domain; and

means for sending said request, including said state information, to said second domain.

25. (Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein the intermediary application is adapted to receive said request from a client prior to said adding, and adapted to add said state information to said request and to send said request.

26. The system of claim 22, wherein said means for sharing comprises:

means for adding state information of said first domain to a response associated with said second domain; and

means for sending said response, including said state information, to a client.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein said client is adapted to save said state information for a specified range of Uniform Resource Locators associated with said second domain.

28. Cancel.

29. The system of claim 22, wherein said state information is representative of at least one of the following:

(a) login credentials to be used when accessing said first domain and said second domain; and

(b) items to be purchased in an on-line virtual shopping mall, wherein said first domain represents a first vendor of said on-line virtual shopping mall and said second domain represents a second vendor of said on-line virtual shopping mall.

30. (Amended) A system of providing state information, said system comprising:

means for determining by an intermediary application state information to be provided to at least one of a client application (client) and a server application (server); and

an intermediary application, that is disposed to receive transmissions exchanged between said client and said server, adapted to provide said state information to said at least one of said client and said server.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein said intermediary application is further adapted to:

receive a request from said client; and

send a response to said request to said client, said response including said state information.

32. The system of claim 30, wherein said state information is provided to said client, and wherein said client is adapted to save said state information for any specified range of Uniform Resource Locators.

33. The system of claim 32, further comprising means for forwarding said state information saved at said client to said intermediary application.

34. The system of claim 32, further comprising means for saving said state information for one or more other range of Uniform Resource Locators.

35. The system of claim 30, wherein said intermediary application is adapted to add said state information to a request for said server.

36. The system of claim 30, wherein said intermediary application is adapted to add said state information to a response for said client.

37. The system of claim 36, wherein said client is adapted to save said state information for a specified range of Uniform Resource Locators.

38. (Thrice Amended) A system of electronic shopping, said system comprising:

means for selecting, by a purchaser, a plurality of items to be purchased electronically from a plurality of vendors, said plurality of vendors comprising a plurality of non-cooperating domains, said non-cooperating domains having no knowledge of one another and wherein said non-cooperating domains do not directly communicate state information between one another, but share state information through an intermediary application; and

means for purchasing said plurality of items on-line via a single check out, wherein an indication of said plurality of items to be purchased need not be moved, by said purchaser, between said plurality of vendors.

39. The system of claim 38, further comprising a shared shopping cart adapted to receive said selected plurality of items, said shared shopping cart being shared between said plurality of vendors.

40. The system of claim 39, wherein said shared shopping cart comprises one or more cookies representing said plurality of items to be purchased.

41. (Amended) The system of claim 39, wherein the intermediary application is coupled to said plurality of vendors, said intermediary application adapted to associate said selected plurality of items with said shared shopping cart.

42. (Twice Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising:

at least one computer useable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing the sharing of state information, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine by an intermediary application state information to be shared between a first domain and a second domain; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to share said state information between said first domain and said second domain, wherein said first domain and said second domain are non-cooperating domains, said non-cooperating domains having no knowledge of one another and wherein said non-cooperating domains do not directly communicate state information between one another, said sharing of state information being through the intermediary application.

43. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein said state information is stored within one or more cookies.

44. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein said computer readable program code means for causing a computer to share comprises:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to add state information of said first domain to a request to be sent to said second domain; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to send said request, including said state information, to said second domain.

45. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein said computer readable program code means for causing a computer to share comprises:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to add state information of said first domain to a response associated with said second domain; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to send said response, including said state information, to a client.

46. The article of manufacture of claim 45, further comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to save said state information at said client, wherein said state information is saved for a specified range of Uniform Resource Locators associated with said second domain.

47. (Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising:

at least one computer useable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing the providing of state information, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to determine by an intermediary application state information to be provided to at least one of a client application (client) and a server application (server); and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to use an intermediary application, that is disposed to receive transmissions exchanged between said client and said server, to provide said state information to said at least one of said client and said server.

48. The article of manufacture of claim 47, wherein said state information is provided to said client, and wherein said article of manufacture further comprises computer readable program code means for causing a computer to save said state information at said client for any specified range of Uniform Resource Locators.

49. The article of manufacture of claim 48, further comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to save said state information for one or more other range of Uniform Resource Locators.

50. (Thrice Amended) At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of electronic shopping, said method comprising:

selecting, by a purchaser, a plurality of items to be purchased electronically from a plurality of vendors, said plurality of vendors comprising a plurality of non-cooperating domains, said non-cooperating domains having no knowledge of one another

and wherein said non-cooperating domains do not directly communicate state information between one another, but share state information through an intermediary application; and

purchasing said plurality of items on-line via a single check out, wherein an indication of said plurality of items to be purchased need not be moved, by said purchaser, between said plurality of vendors.

51. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said non-cooperating domains do not share a proprietary protocol.

52. (New) The system of claim 22, wherein said non-cooperating domains do not share a proprietary protocol.